

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A print head cap comprising:

a bottom surface; and

a ring-like lip surrounding the bottom surface like a ring, protruding toward a nozzle surface of a print head of an ink jet printer and being elastically deformable, the ring-like lip to be pressed onto the nozzle surface to cover the nozzle surface therewith;

wherein the ring-like lip has corners that change a direction of surrounding the bottom surface and includes a distal end and a groove that urges the distal end to be deformed in an outer side of the ring-like lip, the groove extending vertically and perpendicular to the bottom surface, and the distal end falling downward to an inside of the groove when a print head cap is pressed onto the nozzle surface; and

the corners are more elastically deformable than other portions of the ring-like lip, and the corners are made thinner than the other portion.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Original) The print head cap according to claim 1,

wherein the other portion includes a plurality of side lips;

at least one of the corners includes a corner lip; and

the corner lip connects the side lips with each other.
4. (Original) The print head cap according to claim 3,

wherein each of the side lips has a front end and is formed into a tapered sectional shape which is smaller in width as a location goes from the bottom surface toward the front end; and

the corner lip has substantially the same height as the side lips and is smaller than the side lips in thickness.

5. (Original) The print head lip according to claim 3,
wherein the ring-like lip is formed into a rectangular shape; and
the side lips include a pair of linear side lips on long sides and a pair of linear side lips on short sides.

6-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A print head cap comprising:
a bottom surface; and
a ring-like lip surrounding the bottom surface like a ring, protruding toward a nozzle surface of a print head of an ink jet printer and being elastically deformable, the ring-like lip to be pressed onto the nozzle surface to cover the nozzle surface therewith;

wherein the ring-like lip has corners that change a direction of surrounding the bottom surface and includes a distal end and a groove that urges the distal end to be deformed in an outer side of the ring-like lip, the groove extending vertically and perpendicular to the bottom surface; and

the corners are more elastically deformable than other portions of the ring-like lip, and the corners are made thinner than the other portion.

11. (Canceled)

12. (New) A print head cap for covering a nozzle surface of an ink jet printer, the print head cap comprising;

a bottom surface;

a plurality of side walls which are elastically deformable, provided along respective edges of the bottom surface so as to ring the bottom surface, and extending from the respective edges of the bottom of the surface toward the nozzle surface, the plurality

of side walls comprising a plurality of corner members, each of the corner members connecting two adjacent side walls of the plurality of side walls, the corner members being more elastically deformable and being thinner than the side walls; and

a groove which is provided in an outside surface of the plurality of side walls, and formed between a distal end and a proximal end of each side wall in a direction of the nozzle surface.

13. (New) The print head cap according to claim 12, wherein the groove comprises a notch which extends perpendicularly and vertically into the outside surface of the plurality of side walls.

14. (New) The print head cap according to claim 13, wherein the notch comprises a top cut, a bottom cut, and a back wall, the top cut being spaced from the proximal end of the side walls and the bottom cut being spaced from the distal end of the side walls, and the back wall being parallel to the outside surface of the side walls.

15. (New) The print head cap according to claim 12, wherein each of the plurality of side walls comprises a side lip which is provided at the distal end of the side wall.

16. (New) The print head cap according to claim 15, wherein when the side lips of the print head cap are placed against the nozzle surface and a pressure is applied to the print head cap in a direction of the nozzle surface, the distal end of the side walls deforms outward such that a position of the plurality of side lips moves into the groove.

17. (New) The print head cap according to claim 12, wherein the plurality of side walls are flared outward in the direction of the nozzle surface.

18. (New) A print head cap for covering a nozzle surface of a print head of an ink jet printer, the print head cap comprising;

a bottom surface;

a lip surrounding the bottom surface like a ring, protruding toward the nozzle surface of the print head and being elastically deformable, the lip comprising corners that change a direction surrounding the bottom surface and that are more elastically deformable and thinner than other portions of the lip; and

means, which is provided in the lip, for urging a distal end of the lip to be deformed towards an outer side of the lip when a print head cap is pressed onto the nozzle surface.

19. (New) The print head cap according to claim 18, wherein the means for urging also urges a distal end of the corners to be deformed toward an outer side of the corners when a print head cap is pressed onto the nozzle surface.